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Introduction

- Do you suspect there may be environmental hazards in your neighborhood?

Part 1

What are some of the things you need to know to help you get involved in protecting your neighborhood environment?

- Would you like to know how to become involved in environmentally-related issues in your neighborhood?
- What government agencies have authority over environmental issues?
- What is IDEM (the Indiana Department of Environmental Management), and what does it regulate?
- Under what authority does IDEM regulate these activities?
 - Regarding federal authority
 - Regarding state authority
- What is the difference between rules and laws?
- Laws; where can you find them?
 - Regarding federal laws
 - Regarding state laws
- Rules (and regulations); where can you find them?
 - Regarding federal regulations
 - Regarding state rules
- Now that you know where to find copies of state and federal laws, rules, and regulations, how do you use them to find what you need?
- Does IDEM have other materials that may be helpful to you as you work to participate in processes which could affect your neighborhood environment?

Part 2

Who makes Indiana's environmental rules, and what is the rulemaking process?

- Who makes our state environmental rules?
- Who are the members of the state environmental boards?
- Who proposes rules to the boards?
- When do the environmental boards generally meet?
- What is the process associated with making environmental rules, and what are the opportunities for public participation within that process?
- What are the exceptions regarding the opportunity for public participation in the rulemaking process (described immediately above)?
- What other useful information should you remember about the rulemaking process?
- What determines when a public comment period (associated with a permit, variance request, rulemaking, or other IDEM decision) or an appeal period, officially begins and ends?
- What is the *Indiana Register*, and what public notice information might it contain regarding rulemaking efforts by IDEM and the environmental boards?
- How can you view a copy of the *Indiana Register*?

Part 3

How does IDEM help to protect your neighborhood and environment?

- What types of activities does IDEM regulate?
- What are facilities and sources?
- What tools does IDEM use to do its job; protecting the environment?
- What are permits?
- What is meant by Compliance?
- When and how does IDEM undertake enforcement action?

- What other tools does IDEM have at its disposal to help protect the environment?

Part 4

A General Summary of the Public Participation Process

What types of opportunities do you have either to 1) learn that someone is seeking to engage in an activity which could affect the environment and which therefore requires an environmental permit or 2) let IDEM know your thoughts or concerns regarding an environmentally-related decision?

- What types of environmentally-related activities regulated by IDEM include opportunities for you to get involved in the decision making process?
- What types of permits does IDEM issue?

General Permits

- What are “general permits,” and how do they protect the environment?
- What types of activities are regulated by “general permits”?
- What are your opportunities for public participation when someone is seeking a general permit which could be located in your neighborhood?
- What is the public notice process for “general permits”?

Individual Permits

- What is the overall process IDEM follows to issue an individual environmental permit?
- Should you be notified if a new facility or source, which will be engaged in activities which could affect the environment, is proposing to locate on the property right next door to you? (Or if a facility or source already located right next-door to you is proposing to expand?)
- When or how are your local officials involved?
- What is a public notice?
- Where are public notices posted?

- What information is included in a public notice?
- What is a “public comment period”?
- What types of comments are accepted during a public comment period?
- What generally happens at a public meeting?
- How does a public hearing differ from a public meeting?
- Who is notified of IDEM’s final decision to issue or deny a permit or other approval?
- What if you do not agree with IDEM’s final decision? How can you file an appeal?

Part 5

How do each of the various different IDEM environmental permitting programs work?

- Who needs an environmental permit?
- Why is it that the IDEM environmental permitting programs have to be so different from each other?
- What are the specific public notice requirements and opportunities for public participation for EACH of the various permits issued by IDEM?

Air Permits

What types of air permits are there?

- How are permits issued to potential sources of air pollution (possibly in your neighborhood), and how can you participate in the permitting process?
- What is the “variance” process for open burning, and how can you participate in the decision making process which allows such variances?

Water Permits

How are permits issued to wastewater discharges, and how can you participate in the permitting process?

- How are wastewater facility construction permits issued to persons constructing sewer lines or municipal (sanitary) or industrial wastewater pollution control equipment (possibly in your neighborhood), and how can you participate in the permitting process?
- How are permits issued to facilities which may discharge wastewater (and pollutants) into the water (possibly in your neighborhood), and how can you participate in the permitting process?

General NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Permits

Individual NPDES Permits

Variances, Site-specific limits, and altered mixing zone requests

Antidegradation

- How are permits issued for the construction of drinking water facilities, and how can you participate in the permitting process?

General Permits

Individual Permits

Public Notice Regarding Certification of Demonstration of Capacity

- What is IDEM's role in regulating construction in a wetland, and what opportunities exist for public participation?

Waste Disposal Permits

Solid Waste Permits:

What types of permits are issued (possibly in you neighborhood) to recycling centers, transfer stations, landfills, incinerators and other facilities used to dispose of garbage and other solid wastes?

The types of solid waste disposal permits issued by the IDEM OLQ include:

Solid Waste Land Disposal Facilities:

Municipal Solid Waste Landfills (MSWLFs)

Construction/Demolition Debris Landfills (C/D Landfills)

Restricted Waste Sites (RWS); Types I, II, or III

Solid Waste Processing Facilities:

Municipal Solid Waste Processing Facility – Municipal Solid Waste Incinerator

Municipal Solid Waste Processing Facility – Transfer Stations or Recycling Center Types

Modifications to Land Disposal or Waste Processing Facilities:

Major Modification to a Solid Waste Disposal Facility

Minor Modification to a Solid Waste Disposal Facility

How can you participate in the process when IDEM is considering issuing a permit for a solid waste landfill or incinerator, or a major modification to such a facility?

How can you participate in the process when IDEM is considering issuing a minor permit modification to an existing solid waste incinerator or land disposal facility, a major or minor modification to an existing transfer station, or a permit for air emissions from a municipal solid waste land fill?

How can you participate in the process when IDEM is considering issuing a permit to a transfer station (including those with an associated recycling center)?

Other Types of Solid Waste Permits or Approvals Issued by OLQ

- What other types of permits are issued by the IDEM OLQ for handling, processing, treating, re-using, or disposing of non-hazardous solid waste?
- How can you participate in the process when IDEM is considering issuing permit to land apply or market certain biodegradable sludges or biosolids?
- How can you participate in the process when IDEM is considering issuing permit to land apply sanitary wastewater from septic systems or portable sanitary units?
- How can you participate in the process when IDEM is considering issuing approvals for confined animal feeding operations?
- How can you participate in the process when IDEM is considering issuing approvals for a waste tire processing facility?

Hazardous Waste Permits

- Does everyone generating or handling hazardous waste need a permit?
Hazardous Waste Generators
- How are permits issued to facilities for the treatment, storage or disposal of hazardous wastes, and how can you participate in the permitting process?

What is the pre-application public participation process required for “new” or “significantly changed” (existing) hazardous waste facilities permits?

Hazardous Waste Permits; General Public Notice Information

What is the public notice process, and what are the opportunities for public participation associated with hazardous waste permitting?

What is the public notice process, and what are the opportunities for public participation associated with changes (permit modification) to existing hazardous waste permits?

Class 3 Modifications

Class 2 Modifications

Class 1 Modifications

Temporary Modification Authorizations

Part 6

What opportunities exist for participating in the IDEM decision making process associated with environmental cleanups?

Federal Cleanups:

- What is the public participation process associated with Superfund (CERCLA) cleanups?
- What is the public participation process associated with the Defense Environmental Restoration Fund program?
- What is the public participation process associated with the Natural Resource Damage Program?

State Cleanups:

- How is the State Environmental Cleanup Program organized? (Including the cleanup of sites on the Commissioner's Bulletin, as well as state remedial cleanups and immediate removals.)
- What are your opportunities for participation in the State Cleanup Program?

RCRA Corrective Action:

- What is the RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act) Corrective Action process, and to what types of facilities does it apply?
- What opportunities exist for public participation in the RCRA Corrective Action Process?

- How is the RCRA Correction Action process concluded?

The Indiana Voluntary Remediation Program:

- What is the Voluntary Remediation Program, and how does it work?
- What are your opportunities for public participation once a facility has opted to conduct a cleanup within the Voluntary Remediation Program?
- What are the steps associated with completing a Voluntary Remediation Program cleanup?

Leaking Underground Storage Tanks and Brownfields:

- How is the IDEM Leaking Underground Storage Tank cleanup program implemented?
- What are the opportunities for public participation associated with the IDEM Leaking Underground Storage Tank cleanup program?
- How is an IDEM Brownfield Environmental Assessment implemented, and what are the opportunities for public comment associated with that type of service/assistance?

Drafts for Parts 1 through 6 (approximately 90 typed pages) have been completed, and Part 7 is partially completed. Parts 8 and 9 have not yet been drafted.

Part 7

What are the specific public notice requirements and opportunities for public participation for other, non-rulemaking/non-permit/non-cleanup related, activities carried out by IDEM?

- Will you be notified if the drinking water you obtain from a public water supplier (as opposed to drinking water from an on-site private well, or other private source) does not meet the Safe Drinking Water Act standards? What kind of notice can you expect?
- What are the public notice processes associated with the Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Board?

- What are the public notice processes associated with reclassification of attainment/non-attainment areas for air criteria pollutants?

Part 8

What are the environmental issues over which IDEM has no authority?

- What agency has authority over strong odors?
- What agency has authority over weed-killers, pesticides, and similar chemical substances?
- What agency has authority over publicly owned lands?
- What agency has authority over nuclear energy?
- What agencies have authority over Indiana streams and rivers?
- What agency has authority over septic systems (including septic tanks)?
- What agencies have authority over trucks hauling hazardous materials?
- What agency has authority over freon gas, and other chemical substances which could affect the earth's ozone layer?
- Etc.....